

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application, and for indicating that claims 11-15 are allowed and for indicating that claims 2-3 contain allowable subject matter.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1, 3-5 and 11-15 are currently pending in this application. Claim 2 has been canceled by this reply, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1 and 11 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 11.

Claim Amendments and Allowable Subject Matter

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claim 2, which the Examiner indicated contains allowable subject matter. *See* Office Action mailed November 15, 2007, page 3. Dependent claims 3 and 5 have been amended to update the dependencies to independent claim 1. Accordingly, no new matter is added by way of the amendments and Applicant asserts that independent claim 1 is now in allowable form. Dependent claims 3-5 are also allowable for at least the same reasons.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,901,518 (“Scheifler”). As described above, independent claim 1 has been amended to include allowable subject matter. Dependent claim 5 is allowable for at least the same reasons. Thus, this rejection is now moot.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,901,518 (“Scheifler”). As described above, independent claim 1 has been amended to include allowable subject matter. Dependent claim 4 is allowable for at least the same reasons. Thus, this rejection is now moot.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 11345/119001).

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Respectfully submitted,



By

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